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Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/766,784

Applicant(s)

DAVIES ET AL.

Examiner

Art Unit

Matthew Bradley

2187

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to amendment filed 16 May 2007.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-49,52-71.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date 5/16/07
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

This Office Action has been issued in response to amendment filed 16 May 2007. Applicant's arguments have been carefully and fully considered and are persuasive.

Claim Status

Claims 1-49 and 52-71 remain pending and are ready for examination.

Information Disclosure Statement

The information disclosure statements (IDS) submitted on 16 May 2007 was filed after the mailing date for the instant application. The submission is in complete compliance with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97. Accordingly the Examiner is considering the references in the information disclosure statement with a signed and initialed copy being attached hereto.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims **1-49** and **52-71** are allowed.

The following is an Examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: the prior art made of record teaches a method for performing host access control, but fails to teach the combination including the limitation of:

(Claim 1) "...wherein said host interface adapter is configured to receive said requests and to determine for each of said requests whether the host computer identified in said request is allowed to access the logical storage device identified in said request. ";

(Claim 24) "...an interface adapter, coupled to said memory, configured to interface the storage controller with a transport medium, receive on said transport medium from one of the hosts a request to access one of the logical storage devices, and determine from said access table whether said one of the hosts has access to said one of the logical storage devices. ";

(Claim 52) "...wherein said performing the protocol and said determining are performed by an interface adapter, and said causing the logical storage device to transfer the data is performed by a microprocessor distinct from the interface adapter. ";

(Claim 53) "...a first interface adapter operable to connect to and interface with a first transport medium, operable to implement access controls for storage space on the storage devices;...";

(Claim 54) "...a host interface adapter, coupled to said microprocessor, for receiving said requests from the host computers and mapping said external identifier received in said request to its said unique internal identifier based on said host identifier received in said request.";

(Claim 66) "...wherein said receiving is performed by a host interface adapter of the storage controller; mapping a combination of the host computer identifier and the identifier of the one of the plurality of storage devices to a unique identifier used by a microprocessor of the storage controller to identify the one of the plurality of storage devices, wherein said mapping is performed by the host interface adapter;";

(Claim 67) "...an interface adapter, coupled to said first and second microprocessors, for receiving said requests from said host computer, and for each of

said requests determining whether said request specifies a logical storage device in said first set or said second set and providing said request to one of said first and second microprocessors based on said determining.”;

(Claim 71) “... a first interface adapter operable to connect to and interface with a first transport medium, operable to map between hosts connected to the first transport medium and the storage devices; ...”;

As dependent claims 2-23, 25-49, 55-65, and 68-70 depend from an allowable base claim; they are at least allowable for the same reasons as noted *supra*.

The prior art made of record neither anticipates nor renders obvious the above-recited combinations for at least the reasons specified and as shown in Applicant's Arguments filed 7 February 2007..

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled “Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance.”

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed 16 May 2007 have been carefully and fully considered. As noted *supra* the case is in condition for allowance.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Matthew Bradley whose telephone number is (571) 272-8575. The examiner can normally be reached on 6:30-3:00 M-F.


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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Donald A. Sparks can be reached on (571) 272-4201. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

BRP/mb

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Brian R. Peugh
Primary Examiner

5/8/07